

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JEC PA 22789 261543Z

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EUR-25 DPW-01 AID-20 DRC-01 OMB-01 NIC-01

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R 261531Z SEP 74

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH 0200

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JEC PARIS 22789

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: THREE FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE "POLITICAL
PRISONERS" WILL COME TO PARIS SOON

1. THE FOLLOWING AFP ITEM DATED LINEAR PARIS SEPTEMBER
26 MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES: BEGIN QUOTE
THREE FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS OF THE SOUTH
VIETNAMESE THIRD FORCE WHO WERE FORCIBLY HANDED OVER
TO THE PRG ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN PARIS THURSDAY
EVENING FROM HANOI, VIA AMSTERDAM. THEY ARE MR.
NGUYEN LONG, A LAWYER, WHO WAS FOUNDING PRESIDENT
OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S SELF-DETERMINATION
MOVEMENT, MR. TON THAT LAP, A COMPOSER WELL KNOWN
IN SAIGON, AND MR. VO NAU LANH, A BUDDHIST STUDENT.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE
POLITICAL PRISONERS TURNED OVER TO THE PROVISIONAL
REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT AFTER THE PARIS ACCORD HAVE
LEFT THE PRG ZONE TO GO ABROAD. THE THREE
PERSONALITIES WILL BE MET AT LE BOURGET AIRPORT BY
A COMMITTEE OF EMIGRE PERSONALITIES OF THE THIRD
FORCE. END QUOTE.

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PAGE 02 JEC PA 22789 261543Z

2. COMMENT: THE CLAIM THAT MANY GVN-HELD CIVILIAN PRISONERS WHO WERE EXCHANGED UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT WERE FORCED AGAINST THEIR WILL TO GO TO THE COMMUNIST SIDE, RATHER THAN BE SIMPLY RELEASED AS "THIRD FORCE" MEMBERS, WILL NO DOUBT FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THE PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS.
WILLIAMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRISONER RELEASE, POLITICAL PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JECPA22789
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740272-0018
From: JEC PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740912/aaaaajxk.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THREE FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE "POLITICAL PRISONERS" WILL COME TO PARIS SOON
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PFOR, VS, (LONG, NGUYEN), (LAP, TON THAT), (LANH, VO NAU)
To: STATE SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005